(c) No information is available with the Central Government in this regard.

(d) Central Government have been advising all the State Government to increase the proportion of women personnel in their police force. Under the Scheme for Modernization of Police Forces funds are allocated for creation of facilities for women police in the Police Stations.

Staying of Afghan citizens in India

1467. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Afghan citizens are still staying in India;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to send them back;

(c) whether Government have granted Indian citizenship to some Afghan citizens; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) As per available information about 19000 Afghan citizens are staying in India as on 31.12.2002.

(b) While majority of the Afghan nationals belong to Hindu Sikh community and were being allowed to stay in India on humanitarian grounds, now with the changed scenario in Afghanistan the Afghan nationals are being encouraged to return to their home country.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. So far 69 Afghan nationals have been granted Indian citizenship.

Immigration policy

1468. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are actively considering formulating an